



8/30/78

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

Washington, D.C. 20520

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s): _____

Declassify: () In Part () In Full

() Classify as _____ () Extend as _____ () Downgrade _____ August 30, 1978

Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

*Nearly 100 more
have come in to day
not included
in below*

AT046

TO: PD

FROM: RC

SUBJECT: Translation of Postcards from Argentina

Below are translations, done by Carol Emig, of the various postcards we have received from Argentina. To date, we have received approximately 200 cards and letters. Note No. 5.

1. Football World Cup Celebration at Avenue 9 de Julio.

The war has ended in Argentina. The entire country celebrated the triumph of the World Cup. There were neither murders, nor wounds, nor police, nor tanks. Men and women went into the streets to say what their hearts were shouting: to give the message that the world needs and to respond also to the boycott that continues to destroy the image of the nation, an image which, we hope they will recognize as false. Argentina is today, above all other things, a country of peace.

hearts

2. Buenos Aires, Lavalle Street, any night of the week.

The war has ended in Argentina. And today you can walk with your family at any hour. At eight, at ten, at midnight, or at three, four, or five in the morning. There is peace. Yes, read it again: PEACE. We have dissipated the fear that caused us anguish for more than three years. We paid a high price to gain the climate that lives today in Argentina. Not only were the nights dangerous, but the days as well. Luckily, this is the past. Today Argentina has the truth, even though many of you do not want to recognize it.

3. Our children, our flag, our country.

The war has ended in Argentina. And today we work for the country of our children. Gone are the bombs in the plazas and the violence against the schools. We continue to build, because we see ourselves bound by the innocent blood of our destiny. And now, in the midst of a peace that knows neither race nor religion, the 26 million men and women who live in this country think of their future. And we know that we are moving toward a grand and generous country, toward a country with open arms, with the will to be more and more each day.

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59-91-0190

4. Argentine supermarket: fully stocked.

The war has ended in Argentina. Between 1973 and 1976 our economy suffered the most severe crisis of its history. Inflation rose to 1000% annually. Shortages were widespread. It was very difficult to obtain, as in all times of war, oil, sugar, and many other basic foods. Today, with great strength and sacrifice on the part of all Argentines, the situation has improved, as in times of peace.

5. Popular festivities during the Argentine World Cup.

The war has ended in Argentina. These flags are the symbols of the peace we have earned. The World Football Cup was a test we took and passed. You, very far from us, have dared to judge us. You listened to subversive delinquents and gave them tribute. Do not raise a hand to sentence a country that, at a very high cost, succeeded in conquering an enemy intent upon destroying us. If there were mistakes, now we give a message of peace. Now it is you and your consciences that must know if you are continuing to judge falsely a country that looks to its future.

6. Men, medicine, and technology in Argentina.

The war has ended in Argentina. And it was harsh. Subversion came with its senseless violence against our men of letters, our athletes, our artists, our scientists. And they also had to fight. Not only did we Argentines fight against treacherous crime and violence, but we fought in the universities, the schools, the factories, in whatever place the enemy was working to end our liberty and impose its flag. If you prefer to doubt us, don't come. If you want to believe us, we invite you. You will see a great country. A nation that loves liberty, proclaims peace, and for a time now practices it.

7. An Argentine growing in a peaceful country.

The war has ended in Argentina. Today there is peace. A peace we desire for our children. Theirs is the future. A future that was threatened by the greatest and most cowardly enemy of a nation: violence. Today our children are born in a land open to hope, to progress. They walk their first steps hand in hand with a mother who has the certainty of a better tomorrow.

8. The New International Ezeiza Airport.

The war has ended in Argentina. An airport. A symbol. A country open to men of good will from the whole world. Now more than ever. For today we extend our arms to men of good will. You, if you believe in the country we speak of, come.

But with faith, with the desire to see the truth, to impose it before the campaign of farce that seeks to frighten the world with a mean and irrational sensationalism. Come visit us or stay to live among us.